

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday May 7th 2006

Limerick Radio Club

Members of the Limerick Radio Club are QRV as EI60LRC until the end of the year to mark 60 years of the club. Activity is on 80 to 10 metres. QSL is via EI8EM.

The next meeting of Limerick Radio Club will take place on Thursday the 11th of May at 7.30 p.m. in the Limerick Institute of Technology.

South Dublin Radio Club

At its meeting last Tuesday night the 2nd of May, South Dublin Radio Club presented the prizes for two of the competitions that the club hosts. The first was for an internal club competition for working as many DXCC entities as possible for the year 2005 (DXCC 2005 Competition). The winner was Nicky Mullalley EI9JF with a score of 229 entities. The runner up was Mark Condon EI6JK with a total of 129. Nicky received a gift cheque for 100 Euro.

The second competition is the SDR Spring Challenge which had a number of entries for both the Open and Restricted sections. Mark EI6JK was the winner of the Open section and Brendan Kilmartin was the winner in the Restricted section. Both received a gift cheque for 50 Euro. Many thanks to all who took part especially Tom Kelly EI2AJ who always makes a gallant entry.

All are welcome to take part in the next SDR Challenge next February: rules can be had from the club Secretary or soon from the club's new web address - SouthDublinRadioClub.ie.

Mayo Radio Experimenters Network

The Mayo Radio Experimenters Network have commenced theory classes in Stensons of Ballyvary on the N5 on Saturday mornings. It's still not too late to join in and anyone wishing to do so should contact Terry Ebdon, EI5IW on 087 130 8560 as soon as possible.

VHF News

The Mayo, Galway, Roscommon Radio Experimenters Radio Group hopes to run a 2 metre / 70 cm SSB contest during the month of September this year. The date and contest rules will be announced soon.

Anyone with VHF/UHF squares worked can send in their totals for inclusion in the 2006 squares table.

Radio Theory Examination

The next Radio Theory Examination has now been scheduled for Wednesday 28th June 2006. It will take place in the ComReg offices at Abbey Court, Irish Life Centre, Lr. Abbey St., Dublin 1 commencing at 2 p.m. Candidates wishing to sit this examination should apply to Sean Nolan EI7CD, 12 Little Meadow, Pottery Road, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin as soon as possible. The closing date for applications is 16th June.

Course Guide

The new CD-ROM course guide which was launched at the IRTS AGM is in web page format and covers all of the items on the HAREC syllabus on which the new multiple-choice examination is based. There are 400 slides with almost 200 illustrations and diagrams included in the guide. The guide is intended to assist those organising classes, those studying on their own or in small groups for the examination or as a useful refresher for those already licensed.

Information on the guide may be obtained by e-mailing "course at irts dot ie". The Guide is free but there is a €5 charge for registration, post and packaging and e-mail support. The availability of examinations on a regular basis under the arrangement negotiated with ComReg under which the IRTS is responsible for organising, setting and correcting the examination seems to have generated renewed interest in experimental radio. The course guide will be of great benefit to anyone working to obtain an Experimenter's Licence.

CQIR: Ireland Calling Announcement

In 2007 the IRTS celebrates the 75th anniversary of its founding in 1932. As part of the jubilee celebrations the Society is organising an International Radio Contest, "CQIR - Ireland Calling".

For this event, references to Ireland mean the island of Ireland and its offshore islands - both EI and GI. CQIR is a once-off event with a difference - the difference being that overseas Entrants with 75 or more QSO's have the opportunity to win a trip to Ireland. CQIR is a 24-hour, single-operator HF CW/SSB contest on the weekend of the 29th and 30th of September 2007. As this is the fifth full weekend in the month, there is no clash with any established event.

CQIR is a celebration of both the IRTS Jubilee and the "Irish" amateur-radio community world-wide. It's where the Irish, at home and abroad, work the World - and where those of Irish descent identify themselves by including their ancestral County in the exchange: County Mayo, County Antrim etc.

Full rules and county codes will appear on www.irts.ie and will be available shortly in Echo Ireland. Free software will be provided to support CQIR.

Mid Ulster Amateur Radio Club

The Mid Ulster Amateur Radio Club (GI3VFW) will be holding its rally at the Discovery Centre, Oxford Island near Lurgan on Sunday the 21st of May. A new and exciting venue right on the shores of Lough Neagh with a Host of attractions for all the family including boat trips, café, bird hides, nature trails, paddling pool, play area, picnic and barbecue areas. There will be a display by Lough Neagh rescue team and rescue vehicle's on site for viewing. This should prove to be a great day out whether you want to browse the radio rally, enjoy the wild life and scenery or take part in the activities you can be sure of an enjoyable day. Bring your binoculars and camcorders.

The site and rally are wheelchair accessible. For more information, contact John, GI0KUH at "j.p.mccabe at btinternet dot com".

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to "news at irts dot ie" for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Fridays.

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